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STOP

Are you reading this chapter on
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These sites are easy to find and they're very convenient. Some people even think that mangafox/mangahere MAKE chapters.

THEY DO NOT

These websites STEAL translated manga chapters from scanlators like us without giving us any credit. They accumulate manga from hundreds of scanlation groups. They make thousands of dollars not from their hard work but from a scanlation group's hard work like us.

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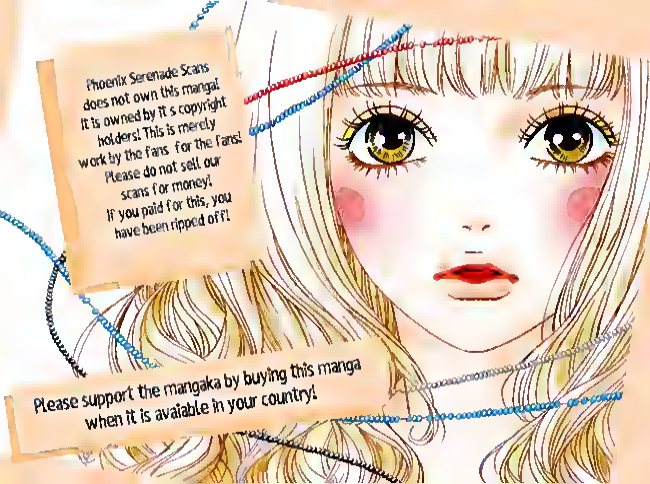
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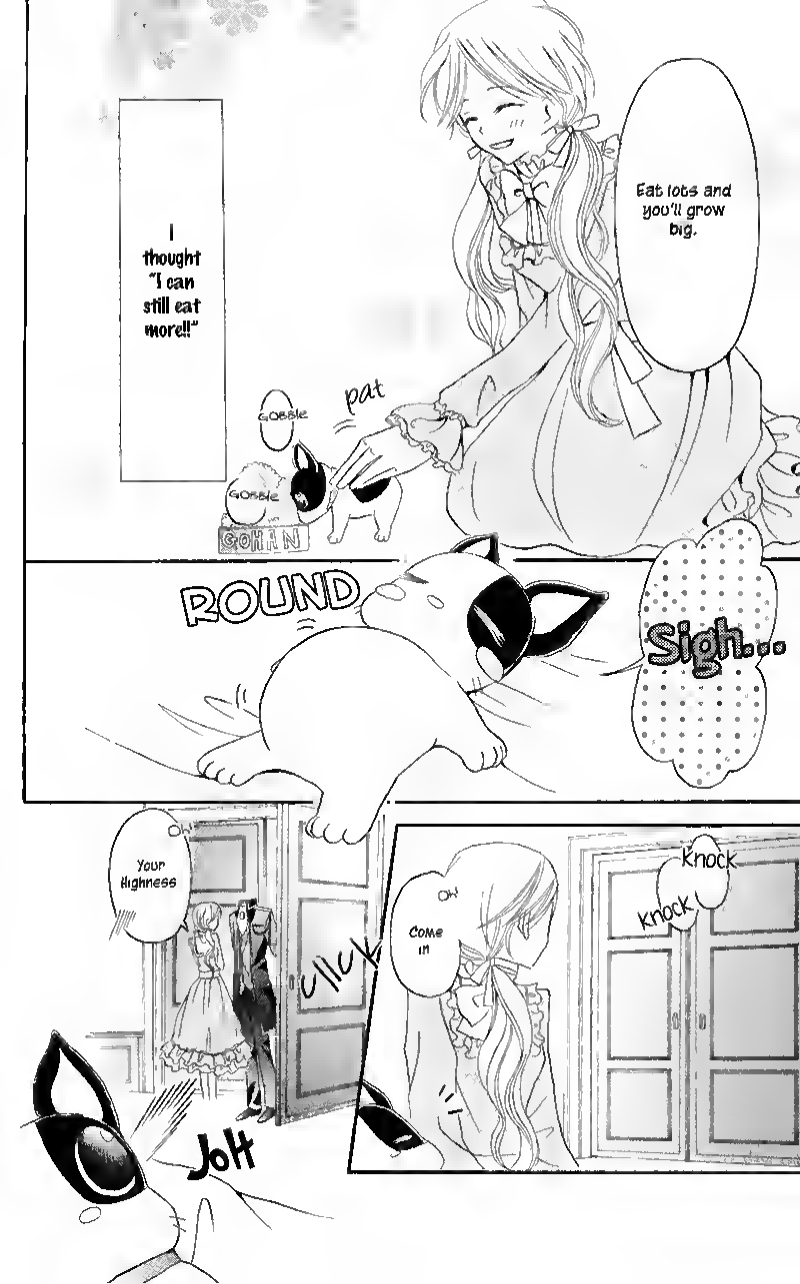
Extra
Chapter

I, Idea, have a gentle mother.
Ide-aaaa!!
Wait
pant
pant
Idea, where are you?
I love playing hide-and-seek.
pant
pant

T/N: Gohan means food.


I thought "I can still eat more!!"
Eat lots and you'll grow big.
pat
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
GOHAN
ROUND
Sigh...
knock
knock
OH
Come in
OH
Your Highness
click
Jolt

It's about time to go
He has a weird power
He's that guy who will take mom from me before long I hate him.
GROWLLL
There he is!
That hateful guy!
STOMP
Ranking
1 Mom
2 Me
3 Never shut up
toss
Irrelevant
4 Bones
5 Weaklings
What?!
We ranked lower than bones?!
I hate him
My personal ranking looks like this.
I see
I will be waiting for your return
Take care.

Idee?
trot trot trot
quickly
toy box

shat
sigh

drop
Are you trying to comfort me?

I'm doing everything in my power
pat pat
Good boy.

Uhhh...
Or maybe a bug?
How about a stone?
to keep mom from looking sad.
...One Day
gnaw
gnaw
Ah!
PLEASE HAVE A LOOK, MISS LILIA
THAT DUCK CAME HERE AGAIN
Is it really did..
I wonder if it lives somewhere around here
glance

jump
Eeek!!
FLAP!!
flap
flap
ARE YOU OKAY, MISS LILIA?
Ah!
What?
THAT DUCK STOLE IT?!
What should I do...?
flap
flap
My hair pin!!
WHAT A FIEND!!
It's not even like we were bullying it.

DON'T TAKE IT TO HEART MISS LIALIA
WE WILL GO LOOK FOR IT.
AND YOU HAVE MANY OTHER HAIRPINS, TOO.
I knew.
.....
It was something that guy gave to mom some time ago
...when he came back home after being away for a long time.
"I'LL TREASURE IT."

Mom kept on looking for that bird.
...Afterwards
WHOA
Atta boy!
...she'll praise me like never before.
pat
pat
If I manage to find that duck
FLASH
and return the hairpin.
Ta-da!

I really thought I was a genius.
trot
trot
trot
Idea!
GOHAN
I wonder where he went?
Without eating anything...
rumble

Well done, Ideal!
You're such a good boy!!
Maybe I should just go back.
I'm starving.
Rock
rumble
sniff
sniff
No, I have to find it
flap
sniff
sniff

sparkle
WOOF!!
There it is!
WOOF!!

turn
smirk
turn
HMPH!
flash
grooooWl
DASH

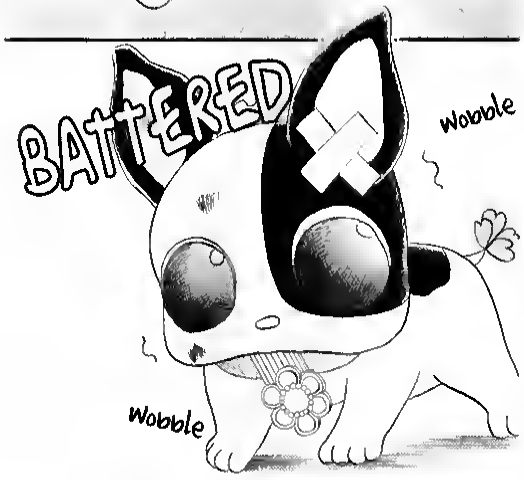
Idea!

Just where did you go, Idea?
I wonder where he went...
dash
MISS LILIA,
HE WASN'T IN ANY OF THE OTHER ROOMS
I see
CLICK
MISS LILIA,
HIS HIGHNESS SHOULD BE RETURNING SOON
HE'S PROBABLY TAKING A NAP SOMEWHERE
DON'T WORRY SO MUCH IT'LL BE OKAY
EVEN IF HE IS YOUNG, HE IS STILL A DILAIDROS

(6)

Yes.
MISS LILIA.
LET'S GO WELCOME HIM.
Hurry up

plod
plod


BATTERED
Wobble
Wobble

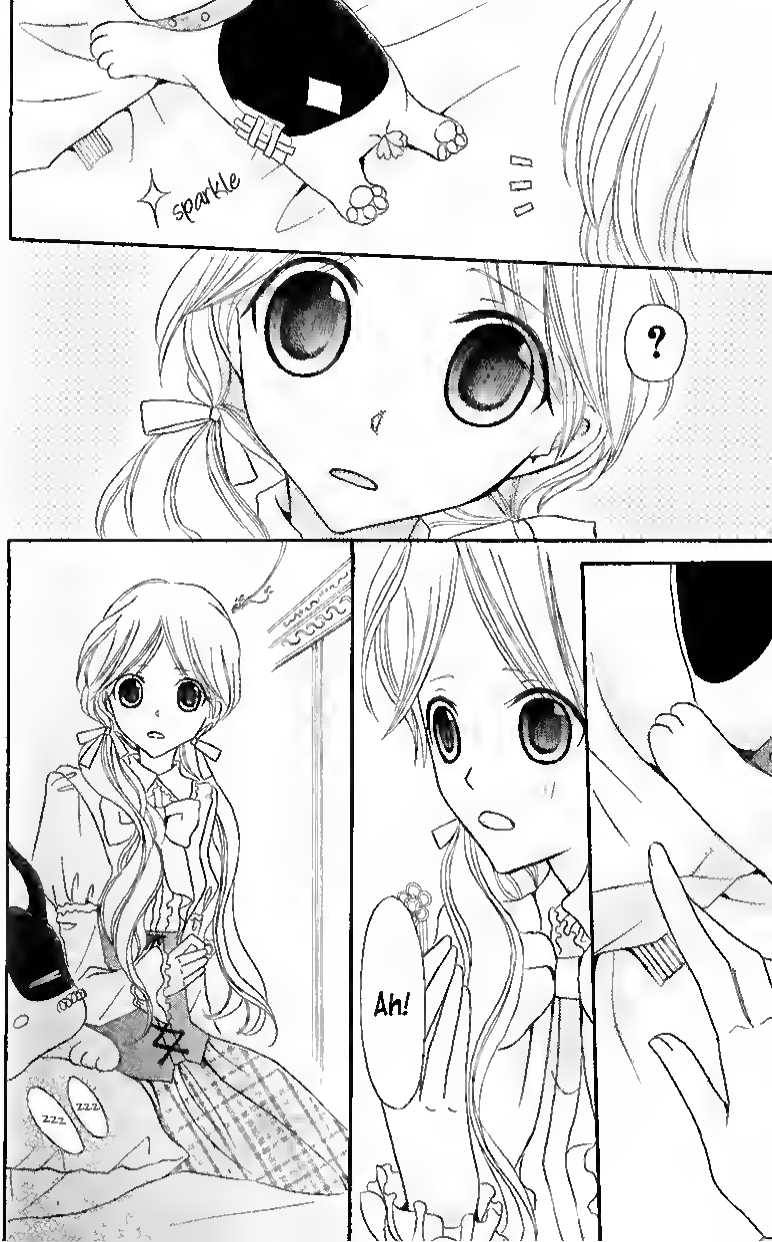
tap
wobble
wobble
tap
I need to get back to mom quickly...
!!!
Mom!
Wag
wag
Ah!
!!!

The one who actually makes mom smile...
trot
trot
trot
I know.
is him.
I know.

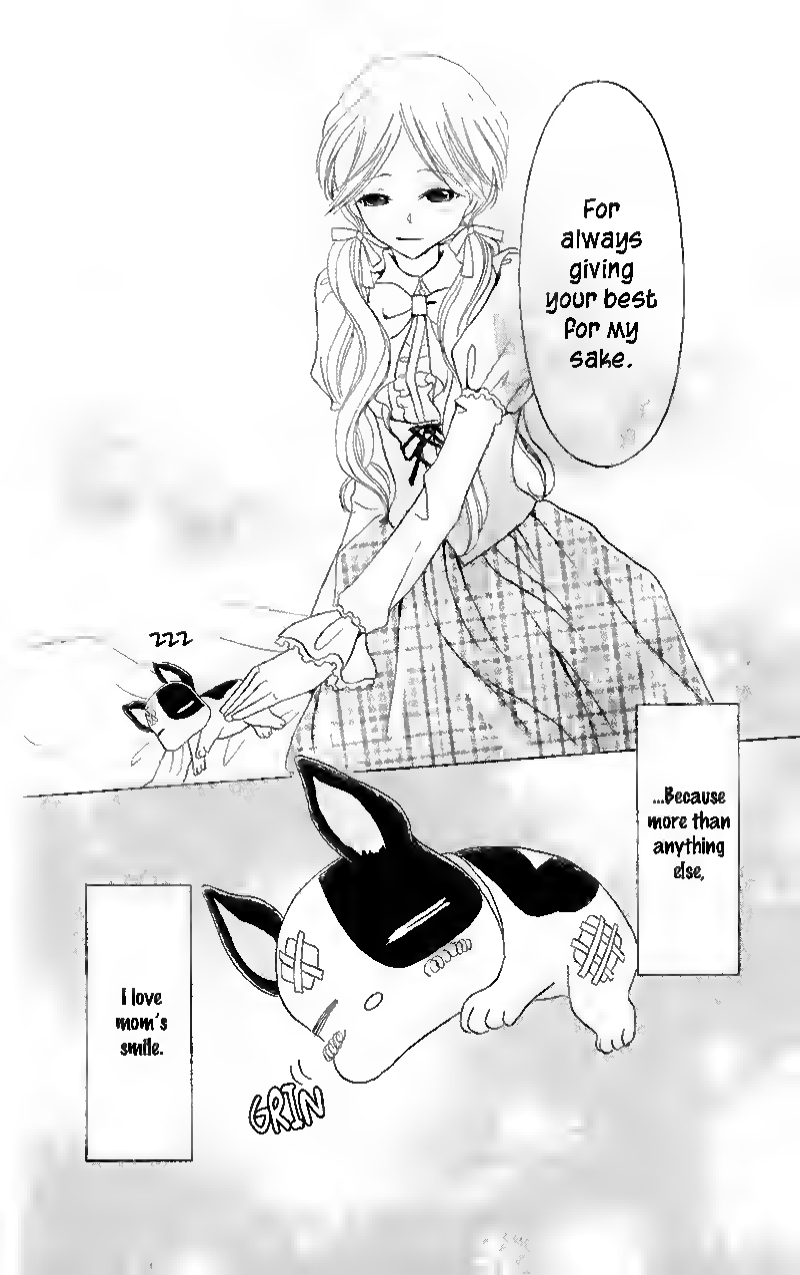
A leash for Idea?
Oh, my!!
Yes, I was thinking you could use it on your walks...
Thank you.
Idea will appreciate it too, I'm sure.

gobble
gobble
gobble
I don't really mind.
GOHAN
I didn't get any praise.
BURP
But I don't really...
whimper
snore
snore

...To be this injured...
I wonder where he went...
Yes
ARE YOU DONE GIVING HIM FIRST AID?
stick
SINCE IT'S IDEA WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, HE MUST HAVE BEEN UP TO SOME MISCHIEF, DON'T YOU THINK?
..Really...?
ZZZ
ZZZ
FAST ASLEEP.


sparkle
?
Ah!
zzz
zzz

Idea...
softly
I don't really mind that I didn't get praised.
...Thank you, Idea...


For always giving your best for my sake.
...Because more than anything else,
I love mom's smile.
ZZZ
GRIN

Afterword

Draw 11 pages for the afterword.

I heard that comics usually have six chapters per volume with 30 pages each, so with Idea's chapters being 24 pages, I was convinced that I'd have to draw four pages for the afterword

I was so shocked, I yelled.

Well then, I should get started.

Until I could work on The Headless

By: Soutsuka Rou

Since I was feeling confident, those words were pretty shocking to hear

You might be told it's too similar

Person in Charge

It's a completely different story really, only the part with the otaku is similar

There's already been a story about an otaku in the prev. issue of Hana to Yume, so—

However, there's a factor I'm concerned about

SHOCK

Editor

Interesting!

It was a story about a female otaku's love.

Oh really?! Thank you!

Before I was able to work on The Headless, I worked on something I intended to submit for a qualifying competition (a great opportunity for newcomers) to get a serialization in the Hana to Yume magazine.

I couldn't come up with anything other than that.

Crap.

I can't think of anything else!

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

The otaku part was the thing I was most confident about..

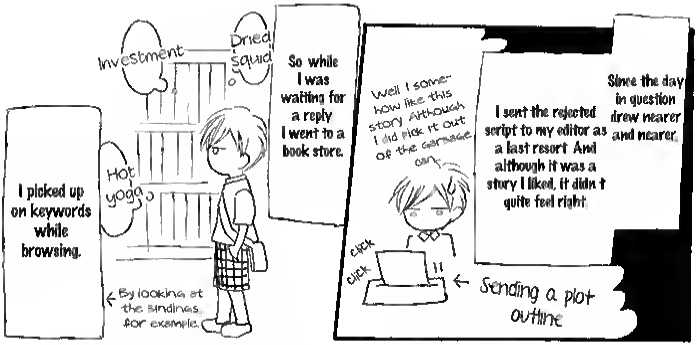
I was being a bigmouth...

Until it's time for the qualifying competition!

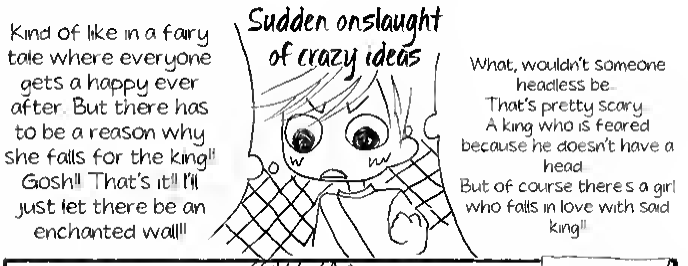
IN THIS CASE, I'LL JUST REDO IT FROM SCRATCH!!

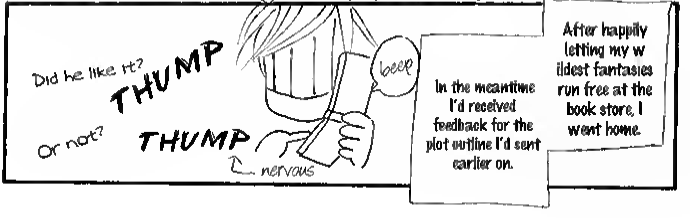
Oh, sounds promising.

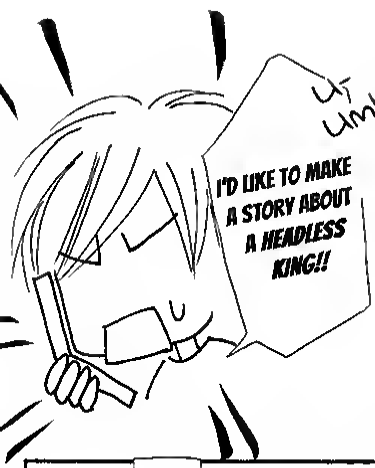
Nevertheless, I was really dying to do this.

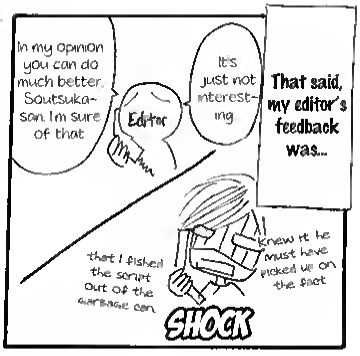

I picked up on keywords while browsing.
Investment
Dried squid
Hot yoga
By looking at the sindings, for example.
So while I was waiting for a reply I went to a book store.
Well I some how like this story. Although I did pick it out of the garbage can.
I sent the rejected script to my editor as a last resort. And although it was a story I liked, it didn't quite feel right.
Since the day in question drew nearer and nearer,
click click
Sending a plot outline

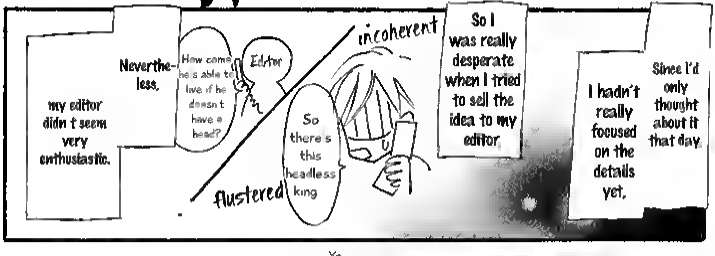
H-
Head-
-less!?
Head-less


Kind of like in a fairy tale where everyone gets a happy ever after. But there has to be a reason why she falls for the king!! Gosh!! That's it!! I'll just let there be an enchanted wall!!
Sudden onslaught of crazy ideas
What, wouldn't someone headless be... That's pretty scary. A king who is feared because he doesn't have a head. But of course there's a girl who falls in love with said king!!


Did he like it?
THUMP
Or not?
THUMP
nervous
beep
In the meantime I'd received feedback for the plot outline I'd sent earlier on.
After happily letting my wildest fantasies run free at the book store, I went home.




In my opinion you can do much better, Soutsuka-san. I'm sure of that
Editor
It's just not interesting.
That said, my editor's feedback was...
that I fished the script out of the garbage can
knew it he must have picked up on the fact
SHOCK


my editor didn't seem very enthusiastic.
Nevertheless,
How come he's able to live if he doesn't have a head?
Editor
So there's this headless king
incoherent
flustered
So I was really desperate when I tried to sell the idea to my editor.
I hadn't really focused on the details yet,
Since I'd only thought about it that day

I was fully motivated and, for some reason, bursting with unfounded self-confidence.

You've not started with the other one anyway
Well then
Editor
Let's give it a try for now
Try to get going with the story board.
OK!

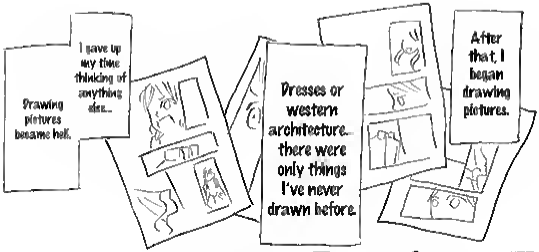
I think he probably concluded, quite reasonably so

- that the premise would collapse on me because it was just too crazy.

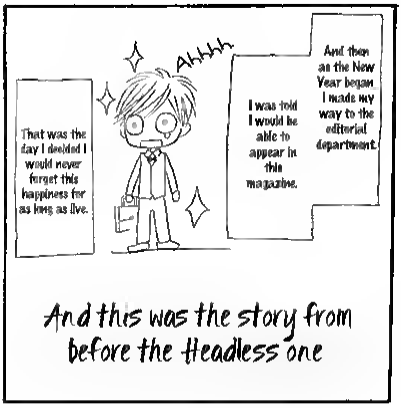
I know there are many who fail because of their crazy setup

I was hunched over on the floor, frantically drawing the last three pages.
What the?! What are you doing?!
Scribble
sitting in darkness
Scribble
But I still managed to give someone a scare.
Chose the spot in front of the bathroom so as not to disturb the others.
And when the others were taking the chance to nap until sunrise after we were done with Sensei's manuscript,
I brought my storyboard along
Even when I went to assist a very influential mangaka
Editor
Very interesting!!
And after he was home, I got feedback from my editor.
I faxed it.
Thank you so much!!
Sensei
You can send it here
Depending on the good will of the influential Sensei,
And so the day of the qualifying competition arrived as I finished making corrections.
That day I was once again on my way home from my assistant job.
roll
roll
—Oh, okay—
disappointed
I DID IT!
SLASH
Oh, but there's a little something I'd like you to fix

A qualifying competition takes time.
In the meantime I became pretty sensitive.
What if I don't make it...
roll
roll
Although I hoped both would be able to make it,
The otaku one had lost its relevance, so I was really hoping for The Headless to make it.
If The Headless doesn't make it, I'll cry...
I really don't want that to happen
That's how much I was dying to work on The Headless.
drip
drip
Is already crying (on the way home)
I...
I DID IT!!
Editor
They picked The Headless!!
And then my editor told me about the results.
This happiness affected me more than when my editor told me that I'd won a prize
.. more than when any of my later comics made it through the selection process.
I'm sure I fell a little for The Headless.
Oh, but there's a little something I'd like you to fix
Oh
Okay
disappointed


Drawing pictures became hell.
I gave up my time thinking of anything else...
Dresses or western architecture... there were only things I've never drawn before.
After that, I began drawing pictures.

I then knew the strictness of a deadline.
This is Bad!!
I won't finish in time like this!!
These were days I didn't even take a bath
scribble
scribble
It took a lot of time to do the second normal story.
I was helped a lot by my friends.


That was the day I decided I would never forget this happiness for as long as I live.
Ahhh
I was told I would be able to appear in this magazine.
And then as the New Year began I made my way to the editorial department.
And this was the story from before the Headless one

It's been a while since I have last seen a morning. just kidding
Finished
I'm grateful.
monster-like hair

On Lilia

This volume I finally managed to show the last moments of Lilia's father. That's been fixed since the beginning. For that reason I gradually introduced this heavy topic in volume three. You can expect the mood in volume four (if I'll be able to release it) to be different again.

Lilia is a nice girl. I love her and since she came to me naturally, I usually feel comfortable drawing her but when I read a letter that said "I envy Lilia for being so proactive in love", I actually realized for the first time that she's someone who's very proactive in love. That might be true but I'm pretty sure love is not the only thing Lilia is proactive in, if only because she's so straightforward. I like to imagine that whenever she was with her beloved family, she would keep on saying "Mother, father, I love you!" So it's only a given... that she would also be upfront about her feelings when falling in love with someone from the opposite sex for the first time in her life. In any case... it really makes you envy her.

Lilia looking bored

Although I do like her smile, I also like this expression on Lilia.

Regarding the king

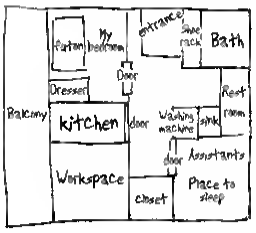
Since quite like drawing rough sketches I've added yet another one. But it's somewhat scary to look at because he doesn't have a head. This time you'll finally get to see his head though. I think it has pros and cons. However, his face and looks have been fixed since the beginning.

To be honest, I already felt like showing you his face in chapter 5 of the first volume but my editor talked me out of it. It was really tough on me. In case you're wondering why. It's because chapters three to five were specifically made for the purpose of showing you the king's face. To me, showing you his face lost its relevance back then. Nevertheless, if I didn't draw this, the story wouldn't progress, so...

It was hard. I cried. Now that I think about it, trying to get into manga has made me cry on a lot of occasions. I guess manga really is something that gouges out your insides in the end, for better or worse. Finding approval will probably make me cry.

Today I also understand why it was better not to show his face in the first volume. Because, right after that, I made up my mind and decided to show his face at the end of volume three.

I ran out of things to write about. 11 pages are a lot, man. Talking about myself or my story all the time is pretty tough. Well, since I moved, I'll try sketch what's changed since the first volume.



I liked my previous apartment, but there was only one room (a one room apartment I lived in by myself). With my assistants there, it would always be jam-packed.

That's how I came to the conclusion that it was time to move. I went by size so naturally the exterior doesn't look that nice. Still, the interior looks surprisingly good and it's cheap too, which is why I like it.

A drawing of Lilia and the king I made in my early days. They're rarely all over each other like this, though. From time to time you see Lilia have that mature look.

Postscript to the afterword

Thank you for sticking with me so far.

Let's talk about l'amour...

L'amour – that's love, that's eros.
And when I say eros, I'm talking about the ancient Greek meaning of eros, not today's interpretation.
I try to include a little meaning of life or amour in all of my stories when I'm working on shoujo mangas.
I know, romantic love is the one form of amour that best becomes a manga, however, I also love to draw other arrangements of l'amour. From human love to animal love.
anything that feels like love.
I keep saying amour all over even though I'm not French, is that the impression you got?
Well, I feel awkward calling it love.
It's got to do with the fact that I'm a Japanese born and bred.

Thank you so much for everything so far. I want to keep giving it my best. I'd be happy if you kept on watching over Lilia and the king, too.

I would appreciate all your thoughts and opinions.

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2-2-2 Kanda Awajichou, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo Prefecture
For the attention of Soutsuka Rou

Afterword / End